



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
District of New Hampshire*

*Federal Building
55 Pleasant Street, Room 312
Concord, New Hampshire 03301*

603/225-1552

MEDIA RELEASE

**For Immediate Release
August 19, 2003**

**Thomas P. Colantuono
United States Attorney
Contact: Joseph N. Laplante
Assistant U.S. Attorney
(603) 225-1562 x 230**

PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS

KINGSTON MAN SENTENCED ON FEDERAL WEAPONS OFFENSE

Re: United States v. Michael Marini, Jr.

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE -- United States Attorney Tom Colantuono and U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Resident Agent in Charge Kraig Hankins, announce that Michael Marini, Jr., DOB 9/19/75, of Kingston, New Hampshire was sentenced on August 19, 2003 on the charge of being a felon in possession of a firearm.

On May 5, 2003, MARINI, who was previously convicted of cocaine distribution charges in Massachusetts, entered a guilty plea before U.S. District Court Judge Paul J. Barbadoro, admitting that he purchased and possessed a Glock 9mm semi-automatic pistol and a Bushmaster rifle in August, 1999. Federal law prohibits individuals convicted of felonies from purchasing or possessing firearms.

At today's sentencing, Judge Paul Barbadoro imposed a sentence of 30 months (2 ½ years) imprisonment followed by a three-year period of supervised release during which Marini's behavior will be monitored by the U.S. Department of Probation.

U.S. Attorney Colantuono stated: "This case exemplifies this Office's commitment to aggressive prosecution of the federal firearms laws as mandated by Attorney General Ashcroft's "Project Safe Neighborhoods" initiative. Keeping firearms out of the hands of convicted felons, including drug traffickers like the one in this case, is one of our main objectives. This office will

continue to vigorously enforce the federal firearms laws as we expand the implementation of Project Safe Neighborhoods in the District of New Hampshire.”

The prosecution against MARINI, part of the Department of Justice’s “Project Safe Neighborhoods” (PSN) initiative, resulted from an investigation conducted by the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The prosecution was handled by Assistant United States Attorney Joseph N. Laplante.